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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Spriestersbach et al.

Int. Appl. No.

PCT/EP2004/050284

Int. Filing Date

March 10, 2004

For

METHOD FOR INERT GAS WELDING

OR INERT GAS SOLDERING OF

WORKPIECES COMPRISING

IDENTICAL OR DIFFERENT METALS OR METAL ALLOYS BY MEANS OF AN ADDITIONAL ZN/AL METAL

Examiner

Unknown

Group Art Unit

Unknown

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. National Phase application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.